

5
 INDIANAPOLIS NEWS (IN)
 18 February 1980

'CIA Exceptions Necessary'

The Central Intelligence Agency should be allowed to "make exceptions" to its general policy against using the paid services of newsmen or university professors, according to agency director Stansfield Turner.

Turner made the comment at a private luncheon preceding a speech Saturday to a gathering sponsored by Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., and a number of veterans' and other military-service related organizations.

Bayh chairs the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence.

Turner said an exceptional situation arose when the U.S. Embassy personnel in Iran were taken hostage.

"I have a regulation not to use or pay academics or newsmen. We keep both of these two professions out of the intelligence process under normal circumstances. But here we were in a situation where a newsmen might be able to find us something that would be of great help to the hostages."

"You would not want me not to be able to pay his ticket to Iran?"

He did not say the CIA had or had not done so.

"What we will set up," Turner said, "is guidance that generally, we'll not use a newsmen or academic if we can

avoid that, but we would have the latitude to make exceptions."

He also said the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan has put the Russians on the propaganda defensive for the first time in decades.

Turner said, "... for the first time since World War II, the Soviet Union is really on the defensive about something they have done."

"They got away with the Berlin Blockade, they got away with Hungary, they got away with Czechoslovakia, but this time they bit off something different. I don't think they anticipated how difficult it was going to be for them, the amount of resistance they have encountered from the freedom fighters inside Afghanistan and more particularly, it seems they underestimated the Ameri-

can and world opposition to this act.

"They are internationally on the defensive with respect to the many Moslem nations of the world. One of the reasons they may have underestimated is they have a closed society. Perhaps they don't understand as well what the rest of the world is thinking and saying."

"We have such international communications you just can't get away with some of the things the Soviets tried without someone perceiving what is happening."

"So this time, the Soviets have run into a much more difficult time than they ever had before. How they are going to extricate themselves is going to be a fascinating development of international affairs over the months and years to come."